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Commercialism and War.

Arnold White, the London correspondent of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, one who has an exceptional understanding of military matters and acquaintance with men in the military service, writes to J.W. Leeds, in reference to the latter's recent pamphlet on the Peace Views of Wiclif, in the following candid vein:

"You have done public service in drawing attention to the reformer's opinions on the incompatibility between the teaching of the Mount and the warlike operations of modern states. But war itself is not more opposed to the teaching of Christ than modern commercialism on the competitive system; indeed, commerce is war. So that apparently we are reduced to the dilemma that drove thousands to monastic and conventual life in the middle ages. which horn of the dilemma will good Americans and English elect to be impaled?"

Herbert Spencer on Militarism.

Herbert Spencer has written a letter pleading for mitigation of the war spirit, says a London dispatch to the New York Journal and Advertiser of recent date. In it he says:

"Whatever fosters militarism makes for barbarism; whatever fosters peace makes for civilization. There are two fundamentally opposed principles on which social life may be organized — compulsory coöpera-

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tion, the one implying coercive institutions, the other free institutions.

Just in proportion as militant activity is great does the coercive regime more pervade the whole society Hence, to oppose militancy is to oppose return toward despotism. My fear is that the retrograde movement will become too strong to be checked by argument or exhortation.

The Pan-American Conference.

It seems now that the difficulties which have been raised by Peru are not likely to interfere with the holding of the Pan-American Conference in October. Our government has decided not to agree to the suggestion of Peru that any arbitration system which may be agreed to shall apply to past as well as to future questions, but that it shall be restricted to future questions, as the Executive Committee of the Bureau of American Republics has proposed in the program. Peru, we feel sure, will not stay out of the Conference on this account.

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ARTICLE I. This Society shall be designated the "American Peace Society."

ART. II. This Society, being founded on the principle that all war is contrary to the spirit of the gospel, shall have for its object to illustrate the inconsistency of war with Christianity, to show its baleful influence on all the great interests of mankind, and to devise means for insuring universal and permanent peace.

ART. III. Persons of every Christian denomination desirous of promoting peace on earth and goodwill towards men may become members of this Society.

ART. IV. Every annual subscriber of two dollars shall be a member of this Society.

ART. V. The payment of twenty dollars at one time shall

constitute any person a Life-member.

ART. VI. The chairman of each corresponding committee, the officers and delegates of every auxiliary contributing to the funds of this Society, and every minister of the gospel who preaches once a year on the subject of peace, and takes up a collection in behalf of the cause, shall be entitled to the privileges of regular members.

ART. VII. All contributors shall be entitled within the year to one-half the amount of their contributions in the publi-

cations of the Society.

ART. VIII. The Officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor and a Board of Directors, consisting of not less than twenty members of the Society, including the President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be ex-officio members of the Board. All Officers shall hold their offices until their successors are appointed, and the Board of Directors shall have power to fill vacancies in any office of the Society. There shall be an Executive Committee of seven, consisting of the President, Secretary and five Directors to be chosen by the Board, which Committee shall, subject to the Board of Directors, have the entire control of the executive and financial affairs of the Society. Meetings of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may be called by the President, the Secretary, or two members of such body. The Society or the Board of Directors may invite persons of well-known legal ability to act as Honorary Counsel.

ART. IX. The Society shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as the Board of Directors may appoint, to receive their own and the Treasurer's report, to choose officers, and transact such other business as may come before

ART. X. The object of this Society shall never be changed; but the Constitution may in other respects be altered, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, or of any ten members of the Society, by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any regular meeting.

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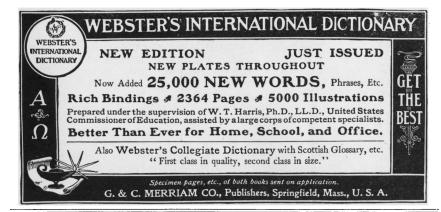
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